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LETTER DATED 8 NOVEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
MALI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a communiqué issued by the Government of Mali on developments in the situation in eastern Zaire (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and of the communiqué circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moustar OUANE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Communiqué issued by the Government of Mali on developments
in the situation in eastern Zaire

The tragic events which have shaken the province of Kivu in Zaire in recent days, resulting in the exodus of more than 1 million people, are a source of deep concern to the Government of Mali.

The international community in general and Africa in particular cannot and must not remain indifferent in the face of this human drama whose consequences for the Great Lakes region cannot be measured.

As it has always done in the past, Mali stands ready to help contribute to the establishment of any intervention force that may be set up under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations for the purpose of safeguarding the lives of millions of Africans that are in jeopardy today.

Mali cannot stand by passive and indifferent to the plight of these children, women and elderly persons buffeted by interests that do a disservice to Africa and all mankind.

A national day of solidarity of Malian schools with the children of these beleaguered zones is to be observed on 28 November 1996.

A statement will be read out on that occasion and in every classroom in Mali at the same time.
